



NEWSLETTER

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City Takes Major Step to Reduce Sewage Overflows *First Phase of Project Now Complete*

INDIANAPOLIS: Thursday, September 9, the Indianapolis Department of Public Works (DPW) took major steps towards eliminating the single largest source of sewage overflows to the White River during wet weather. DPW completed the fourth and final pour of a 3,000 yard concrete slab, which will serve as the foundation for capacity improvements at Belmont Advanced Wastewater Treatment (AWT) Plant.

The Belmont AWT Plant serves more than 449,000 homes and businesses in the Indianapolis area, including the combined sewer area in the old city limits. During dry weather, wastewater from the sanitary and combined sewer areas is transported to the treatment plant. The wastewater then cycles through the full treatment process—primary, secondary and tertiary, followed by disinfection. However, during wet weather, when the treatment plant reaches the full secondary treatment capacity, only 50 percent of the wastewater entering the plant can be fully treated. The remainder then overflows at various points throughout the City.

The Belmont AWT Plant Wet Weather Secondary Treatment Expansion project will double the secondary treatment capacity from 150 million gallons per day (MGD) to 300 MGD. Expansion of the secondary treatment will eliminate partially treated sewage overflows by more than 1 billion gallons per year and improve water quality in the White River.

Completing Thursday's concrete pour took 75 workers and lasted nearly 12 hours. Members of the media watched the work and interviewed DPW Deputy Director Stephen Nielsen. Now that the concrete is laid, construction on the treatment facility can begin. Construction should be complete in 2012.

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